

The Baptist Record

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Through LIFE Support...

Adult children can conquer cyclical family dysfunctions

By Terri Lackey

EULESS, Texas (BP) — The cyclical nature of dysfunctions can be an unwitting contributor to a life of poor relationships, a leader in the field of support group materials said.

Adult children commonly pass on to their families and relationships what they learn from their parents, Kay Moore, design editor for Baptist Sunday School Board support group materials,

told participants in the national conference of Recovery and Spiritual Awakening in Euless, Texas.

That can be good if they learn love, support, and praise, she said. But what if they learn criticism, distrust, and insecurity?

"Children learn what they live. Our family of origins affects us in every relationship that we have. Parental modeling is very strong," she said while teaching the LIFE Support Group Series course, "Breaking the Cycle of Hurtful Family Experiences."

Parents are essentially modeling the characteristics of God in the ways they treat their children, Moore said. "That is what children are learning from us."

And, what they learn can affect them in every area of their lives, she said, giving as two fictitious examples, Chris and Joe.

Chris was raised with much love, affirmation, security, praise, and support. He was disciplined consistently. In his adult life, he was not afraid to take risks or propose new projects at work. When he was promoted to manager, he was very affirming and fair.

Joe was constantly berated and criticized by his parents. They always compared him to his other siblings who were better than he was in school work and athletics. Joe grew up with an innate sense that something was wrong with him. At work, Joe was insecure with and critical of his employees. At home, he was competitive and controlling. He rarely affirmed his wife or spoke

to her affectionately.

"His actions were not intentional in any way; he just learned what he was taught," Moore said.

"We have a strong tendency to emulate our parents, good or bad. We relate to people like our parents related to us," she said.

"This course is not about parent bashing or blaming our parents. It's about learning to understand what happened, and breaking the cycle so that you don't pass on the negatives to your children or in your relationships," Moore said.

Moore said in all the support and discovery group workshops she has led in her church, First, in Nashville, she has never "seen a relationship with a parent that did not improve in some way."

In one recent instance, a mother and daughter had not had civil communication for five years, Moore said. "After the daughter went through 'Making Peace (with Your Past)', they went on a pleasure trip together. Everything wasn't solved, but it got to the point where they could relate in a positive, healthy way, and really have a good time together."

Because they are modeling the characteristics of God, parents should be particularly aware of how they relate to their children, Moore said.

An adult's relationship to God is usually similar to the relationship he or she had with parents, Moore said.

Consequently, if parents are verbally abusive, God is seen as difficult to please and angry. If parents are unaffectionate, emo-

tionally distant or inactive, God seems unreachable, uncomfortable, distant, and uninvolved. If parents are perfectionists, the adult child may feel he can't do enough to please God.

However, if parents are supportive and accepting, God is viewed as being positive and consistent.

"We can resolve to be the generation that stops the further passage of these negative patterns," Moore said. "We can be the generation that breaks the cycle."

Moore said breaking the cycle takes courage, understanding of the problem, and willingness to take the appropriate steps to fix it.

"First, we need to forgive. This is absolutely core. To extend true forgiveness we have to be honest and objective."

Secondly, adults who want to break the cycle also must "learn healthy ways to respond to parents."

That includes seeing parents as people, not villains; seeing one's self as a conqueror, not a victim; developing a healthy sense of independence; and making godly choices, such as choosing to love and forgive.

The LIFE Support Group Series course, "Breaking the Cycle of Hurtful Family Experiences," is due for release in July 1994 and can be used as an entry-level course to beginning a support group ministry. It will be available in Baptist and Lifeway Christian stores or by calling the Board's toll-free customer service number at 1-800-458-2772.

Lackey writes for BSSB.



Historic announcement

A Mongolian official announces the legal registration of Ulan Bator Baptist Church — the first such recognition of a Christian church in Mongolia's modern history — as Southern Baptist workers Gary and Evelyn Harthcock (right) look on. The government recognition was celebrated at a February banquet and ceremony marking the church's formal constitution in Ulan Bator, Mongolia's capital. The church began as a small Bible study in the living room of the Harthcocks, from Winter Park, Fla., who went to Mongolia in 1992 to teach English. Christian groups of any kind have existed for only a few years in the formerly hard-line communist nation bordering China and Russia. Southern Baptists sent teachers, medical workers, and others to serve Mongolian society. A number of Mongolians have become Christians, including several medical doctors and students who are charter members of the church. (BP photo)

Phone company retreats

U.S. West has announced a "revision" after an uproar over its new policy prohibiting religious references in white- and yellow-pages telephone directories. The company earlier ordered two church-related nursing homes to remove religious symbols from yellow pages ads because the ads violated federal Fair Housing Act provisions against discrimination in housing. One nursing home had included its long-established logo, while the other nursing home had used a simple shepherd's staff. In addition, the nursing homes were told they could use their names only once in the ads, since the names had religious interpretations. The "Baby Bell" company originally enacted the policy based on changes in the fair housing section of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which is now headed by avowed lesbian activist Roberta Achtenburg. Achtenburg used her previous political position as a San Francisco City Supervisor to lead a high-pressure campaign to force the Boy Scouts to accept homosexual scout leaders.

TV flunks Religion 101

Fair treatment of religious issues is almost non-existent on U.S. television news, according to a new study released by the Media Research Center (MRC) in Washington, D.C. Researchers Tim Graham and Steve Kaminski, who logged 1993 coverage of religious and social issues on network news broadcasts of all types, found:

— of several thousand evening news stories, only 212 focused on religion.

— 150 news stories emphasized violence advocated by some militant anti-abortion protestors, while no stories depicted the tactics of pro-abortion groups.

— homosexual issues were covered at nearly twice the rate of religious issues, and there were no stories that dealt with the moral aspect of homosexuality.

— religion-bashing is pervasive, as evidenced by the multitude of top stories broadcast at face value on the unfounded and since-retracted accusations of clerical sex-abuse made against Catholic Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago.

Looking Back...

10 years ago

Fascinated residents of Ouagadougou in Upper Volta watch while heavy machinery roars past them as part of a massive water project, headed by SBC missionary Larry Cox of Lexington, to bring water to the region for the first time.

20 years ago

Acteens and Pioneers from Temple Church and University Church in Hattiesburg join forces in a "Hike for Home Missions" that raises over \$500 for the annual Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

50 years ago

Herschel H. Hobbs, popular pastor of Immanuel Church in Alexandria, La., and "one of the very finest young preachers in the South," comes to Mississippi to lead revival services in Leland. The revival results in 26 professions of faith.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

The transition process

"Transition process" is a much better term than "retired," "fired," "terminated," or "axed." Ed Young, SBC president, said it "happens in churches, it happens all the time, and the kingdom will move forward." This should be soothing information to Russell Dilday, the latest victim of the transition process.

Then Mark Coppenger, SBC vice president for convention relations, speaks of the virtue of the transition process and the blessing it has been to Southern Baptists. Cataloguing those who have been dismissed, pressured to retire, or permitted to employ the "golden parachute," Coppenger observes that the agencies continue to move forward.

True it is that the Foreign Mission Board continues to be a growing enterprise after the release of Keith Parks... though there was the possible loss of a \$32 million gift and the beginning of an alternative mission-sending agency in the ranks of Southern Baptists.

Larry Lewis is a hard working man at the Home Mission Board and it's certainly not his fault, but the HMB is projecting a budget

shortfall of 6% and programs are being scaled back.

Coppenger pulls out all stops trying to paint a happy face on the transition process but the sour strokes are apparent. Baptisms in the SBC are down by 12% in the last two years. We baptized more 20 years ago than last year. Cooperative Program giving has been in slow, dismal decline. Of course, this is not Coppenger's fault as he tries hard to keep the ship moving, but there is little virtue in crying "Safe, Safe," when the ship has a leak. There are many conservatives very unhappy with the transition process. Somewhere we changed priorities and all the theological putty applied will not alter the leaning house.

Institutions are the stewardship of the trustees, not their private property. Mississippi Baptist leaders see it as "a sad day," Texas Baptists are "deeply disturbed" and not inclined to be a "farm team of the SBC."

Other conventions are upset over the apparent attitude of the SBC leadership. Now we are told by convention relations that it is a

real mark of progress and that "Southwestern has chosen to move on, and there is every reason to believe they too will experience encouraging development." The seminary's strong point, says Coppenger, is its "determination to stand by the Cooperative Program. As all our agencies sound a strong note of allegiance to the CP and mission support offerings, we can expect even greater life for our Great Commission work."

The tone is that trustees, hand-picked by the SBC, can continue to shape all agencies and institutions according to the fundamental/conservative pattern and everyone will continue to support the Cooperative Program. This has usually been the case since 1925 but as Coppenger said, "change isn't easy, but it is inevitable."

How long the people will continue to support the Cooperative Program in the face of such cavalier action remains to be seen. It appears that consensus, reconciliation, and Christian love would do more to uplift the CP rather than a pre-determined "transition process."



THE FRAGMENTS

Simply trusting

It was quite natural the way he shared his testimony. "Three years ago my wife and I attended a church in _____ (a small town in north Mississippi), usually only for special occasions. One night the pastor came by. He shared the Word of God with us and led us to know Christ Jesus as our personal Savior. Kneeling by the coffee table, my wife and I accepted his gracious invitation to come into our hearts and take charge."

These words warmed the hearts of all who heard it. Others began to express how Christ came into their lives. This goes on every day in our state — not as much as we wish, but it does happen. Pastors and laypersons share the Word, and lead people to Christ.

"I'm sure glad the pastor came by that evening. My life has sure changed since then." All of us agreed that the same had happened to us. — GH

Curt Grice, youth minister at the Arlington church, said several of his Sunday School department directors and teachers expressed appreciation for the improved materials and the opportunity for input in making them even better.

"I applaud the Sunday School Board for doing this research," he said, adding he won't buy literature from the BSSB simply because it is produced by a Southern Baptist publishing house.

"But if the Sunday School Board continues to provide materials that meet our needs, then I definitely want to give it first shot when it comes to buying our Sunday School literature," he said.

The youth Life and Work cur-

riculum is not the only material being improved by the Sunday School Board. Enhancements also are being made in the other two youth curriculum series (Bible Book and Convention Uniform) and in preschool, children's, and adult Sunday School materials.

Revisions being made to children's Life and Work teachers books are being tested this month by Sunday School teachers participating in focus groups in Dallas, Atlanta, and Charlotte, Gillespie said. Changes in adult Life and Work Sunday School literature will be field tested in churches in early June.

Alford writes for FACTS AND TRENDS, BSSB.

Guest opinion...

Sunday School Board continues research to improve literature

By Chip Alford

NASHVILLE (BP) — Committed to a new philosophy of "continuous improvement" in all its products and services, the Baptist Sunday School Board is continuing to research the types of changes and enhancements needed in its Sunday School literature.

The latest project involved the field testing of newly designed youth Sunday School literature in 120 churches across the United States on March 13 and 20. According to Dick Gillespie, senior manager of the product management section in the BSSB's Bible teaching-reaching division, approximately 8,000 prototypes of improved Life and Work curriculum materials for youth (teacher and member pieces) were sent along with questionnaires to churches representing both BSSB customers and non-users.

Sunday School teachers, department directors, and students filled out questionnaires after using the new materials in their Sunday School classes. Informa-

tion gained from the research will be used to further improve the materials.

"We wanted to see if we are on the right track with the changes we are making," Gillespie said. "It isn't enough to make changes or introduce new products every five or 10 years. We must constantly refine our products to make sure they are the best on the market."

The revamped Life and Work youth materials were developed earlier this year in response to information gained from a year of research conducted on the board's behalf by an independent Nashville firm.

More than 13,000 Southern Baptists were surveyed about their views on the strengths and weaknesses of BSSB literature and the types of changes and improvements that were needed. Data from that research was combined with information gained from 27 focus groups in Atlanta, Dallas, and Charlotte in December which involved approximately 300 Sunday School teachers

and class members.

The changes in the youth materials were designed to make them easier to use, more relevant, and more focused on life application. If the reaction of several Sunday School teachers at First Church, Arlington, Texas — one of the churches participating in the field testing — is any indication, the improvements made in the youth Life and Work materials are a definite step in the right direction.

"The materials are more contemporary looking and they seem to be more related to the needs of youth," said Nancy Allmon, who teaches a 10th grade Sunday School class at the church.

Bob Fancher, another 10th grade teacher, agreed.

"The materials are easier to study and read, and I like the additional use of color. The content has been weak in the past but it seems to be better in these materials. I like the way the application is woven into the lesson instead of just being added on at the end," he said.

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Southwestern's Tolar named acting president

FORT WORTH (BP) — William B. Tolar, vice president for academic affairs and provost at Southwestern Seminary, has been named the school's acting president.

Tolar said his acceptance of the acting president should not be considered as an endorsement of the trustees' March 9 firing of former president Russell H. Dilday.

"My acceptance of these responsibilities does not mean that I concur with the action of dismissing Dr. Dilday nor the manner in

which it was done. He is a cherished friend of 46 years and a great leader. It would please me beyond all words if a reconciliation could be made between him and the board of trustees," Tolar said.

During the March 29 press conference announcing Tolar's appointment, trustee leaders said an "overabundance of caution" and "business world protocol" prompted Southwestern Seminary trustees to order the lock on Russell Dilday's door changed and his computer access code erased.

But if they had it to do over again, said Miles Seaborn, they might have done it differently, possibly sending someone with Dilday to his office to get his personal belongings rather than locking him out.

Seaborn, pastor of Birchman Church, Fort Worth, and Lee Weaver, also a member at Birchman and newly elected trustee vice chairman, fielded reporters questions during the press conference.

Weaver said the changing of

the locks was "not a reflection on anyone personally. We didn't know what to expect."

"It was done according to protocol of the business world," said Seaborn, who insisted that Dilday hadn't been locked out of his office, but that his access had been limited. Changing the locks and computer code were not meant to belittle Dilday or "rub salt into the wounds," Seaborn said. "But we didn't know what all he had access to through the computer. He is a computer whiz."

John Earl Seelig, acting director of public relations, told reporters he had been asked at a Lions Club meeting what all the fuss was about changing the locks on the president's office. "Several business executives said, 'What is the big deal? It happens in busi-

nesses all the time,'" said Seelig.

Seelig also took issue with reports that the firing has cost the seminary \$15 to \$20 million in gifts and pledges. Spokesmen for the Southwestern Council who cited those amounts in a memo to news media must have been thinking of people who said they were planning to give but had changed their minds, Seelig said.

According to the Dallas Morning News, a three-page memo circulated by the chairman and past chairman of the Southwestern Council estimated the seminary had lost "at least \$15 million in gifts and pledges" and that 20 council members had resigned.

Art Toalston, writer for Baptist Press, and Toby Druin, associate editor, BAPTIST STANDARD, contributed to this story.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, April 7, 1994

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Mission leaders alarmed at drop in human needs gifts

By Marty Croll

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Top leaders at the Foreign Mission Board are alarmed at figures showing Southern Baptist giving for overseas hunger and disaster relief slid last year and have veered even more sharply downward in 1994.

In 1993 receipts dipped by 13% from 1992. And through March 1994 receipts show a 26% decline from the same period of 1993.

If the giving pattern persists, the board would collect \$4.9 million in human needs offerings this year. It would be the lowest figure since 1981's \$4.8 million.

Receipts grew rapidly from the program's earliest stages in the late 1970s and peaked in 1985 at nearly \$12 million when Ethiopia's famine broke into

world consciousness. They started leveling out between \$7 and \$8 million in the late 1980s. Last year giving finished at \$6.6 million, down from \$7.6 million the year before.

Unlike many relief agencies operating overseas, the Foreign Mission Board uses 100% of its human needs offerings on the field. Mission workers who plan community development programs and monitor or distribute aid are already in place supported through other funding channels.

Jimmy B. Foster, a veteran of meeting hunger and relief needs

worldwide, took charge of the Foreign Mission Board's human needs program April 1.

Foster, of Grand Prairie, Texas, succeeds John Cheyne, a former missionary who led the program to respond to world hunger and relief needs since its early stages in 1978. Cheyne, a 40-year veteran of foreign missions, retired March 31.

For nearly three years, Foster, 49, has been based in London with Cooperative Services International (CSI), a Southern Baptist overseas aid agency. As CSI human needs coordinator, he has logged thousands of miles spearheading relief and development projects in Africa, southeastern Asia, and the Middle East — and places in between.

Croll writes for FMB.



Foster

Leavell turns 70 in 1996 —

NOBTS trustees approve retirement plans

By Greg Warner

NEW ORLEANS (ABP) — Landrum Leavell, president of New Orleans Seminary, will retire by the end of 1996 but leave the presidency to become chancellor at some point before then.

Leavell, 67, reached an agreement with the school's trustees to retire when he turns 70 in December 1996. The trustees unanimously approved the agreement during their March meeting, according to the board chairman, but no announcement was made.

Instead, a news release from the seminary reported that trustees passed a resolution praising Leavell "for his dynamic and creative leadership" during his 20-year tenure as president.

Chairman Ed Johnson, pastor

of First Church, Ocala, Fla., said Leavell will move to the chancellor's post to assist the school in fund-raising. Leavell will choose when to make the move, Johnson said, adding, "He did not give us a time when he expected that to happen."

When the move is announced, a search committee can begin looking for Leavell's successor, Johnson said.

Leavell "did not feel any pressure from our board" to schedule his retirement, Johnson said.

Leavell agreed. "In fact, they had a committee talk with me (several years ago) and told me to think in terms of 70, then to go year by year," he said. "It's been real loose."

While other Baptist seminary presidents have had contentious relationships with their trustees, Leavell and New Orleans' board have been spared any major flare-ups over the years.

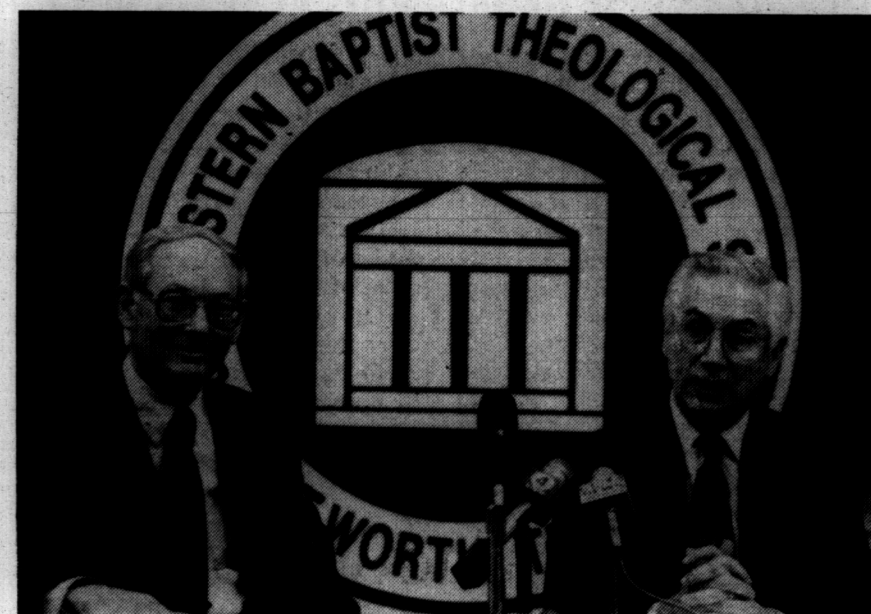
"There has been no pressure on me to compromise any conviction I've got," the president said.

"I would like New Orleans to be a model of good transition in these days," Johnson said.

Asked if a smooth transition was his objective, Leavell said, "You bet!"

Both Leavell and Johnson declined to speculate on possible successors.

The potential candidate most often mentioned by conservative leaders is Richard Land, a New



ACTING PRESIDENT — William B. Tolar (right), vice president for academic affairs and provost at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, accepts the role of acting president of the school. The announcement was made at a press conference March 29 by Lee Weaver (left), a Fort Worth petroleum engineer and vice chairman of the board of trustees. (Photo by Morris Abernathy)

Cooperative Program gifts above last year, budget

NASHVILLE (BP) — Cooperative Program receipts for March were up more than 15% above last

year and nearly 3% above the six month total for the last fiscal year, according to Morris H. Chapman, president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee.

The six month, year-to-date, figures are also 4% above the SBC program allocation budget requirement.

For March, total CP gifts were \$12,843,825 compared to March of 1993 of \$11,148,016 or a 15.21% gain. The year-to-date figures, the six month benchmark in the fiscal year, are \$71,890,891 compared to the same period last year of \$69,908,521 or a gain of 2.84%.

The year-to-date figures are 4.01% above the budget requirement of \$69,117,367 for the first six months of the 1993-94 fiscal year.

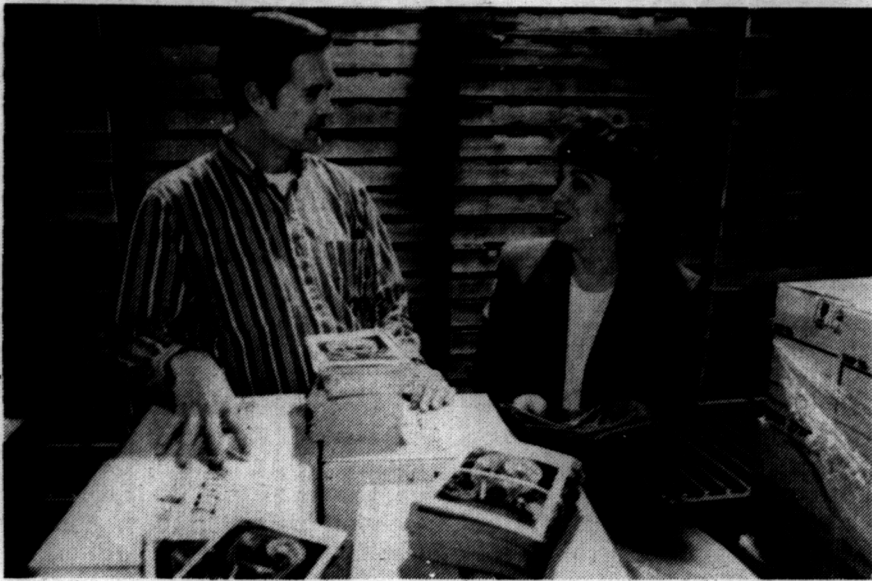
In designated gifts, the March 1994 totals were \$17,148,519 compared to last year's March of \$15,496,772 or a 10.66% gain. For the year-to-date in designated gifts, the total of \$80,366,033 is just .08% short of last year's total at this time of \$80,426,372.

Orleans graduate and president of the SBC Christian Life Commission.

Asked if he could support Land, Leavell said, "I don't have any comment on any prospects." Johnson, asked if Land fits New Orleans' profile, said, "No comment."

Serving as chancellor could give Leavell a chance to influence the selection of a new president. "We would be very interested in his opinion," Johnson said, "but the selection committee would be a very autonomous committee.... I don't think Dr. Leavell has any desire to hand-pick his successor."

Warner is editor, Associated Baptist Press.



New women's magazine

NASHVILLE — Selma Wilson (right), editor of *Journey*, a new monthly devotional magazine for women, and Wesley Stone, a warehouse stock clerk for the Baptist Sunday School Board, check over the first issue as it arrives on the dock. More than 11,000 orders have been placed for the devotional magazine, released in April and produced through the BSSB's discipleship and family magazine department. (BSSB photo by David Rodgers)

Please use this form to recommend members of Mississippi Baptist churches to the Committee on Nominations. Make copies and use a separate form for each recommendation. Deadline: May 6, 1994.

Recommendation Form	
Name _____	
Address _____	
City _____	State _____ ZIP _____
Telephone (Home) (____) _____ (Business) (____) _____	
Approximate Age _____ Sex ____M ____F Ordained _____ Lay Person _____	
A member of _____ Church _____	
Address _____ Phone _____	
Approximate Sunday School enrollment 0-250 _____ 250-500 _____ 500+ _____	
Church Staff Member Yes _____ Title _____	
Lay Person Yes _____ Occupation _____	
Check the board you feel this person could serve well:	
() Convention Board	() Bd. of Ministerial Education
() Education Commission	() Historical Commission
() Baptist Children's Village	() Baptist Foundation
() Miss. Baptist Medical Center	() Christian Action Commission
() Baptist Mem. Health Care Sys.	() Blue Mountain College
() Mississippi College	() William Carey College

List this person's present or past experiences on MBC Board or Commission _____

What percent of this person's church budget is given through the Cooperative Program? _____ %

What abilities, gifts, and experience does this person have that qualifies him/her for the position recommended? _____

Is this person active and supportive in their local church? () Yes _____

Your name is not necessary, but might help the committee:

Name _____ Phone _____

Correct address and phone number of the person you recommend are vital. Mail your recommendations to:

Bobby Douglas, Chairman
Committee on Nominations
Mississippi Baptist Convention
P.O. Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205

Praise mixed with criticism for Catholic/evangelical document

NEW YORK (ABP) — In a move described by some as symbolic of America's changing religious alignments, two Southern Baptist leaders joined 38 representatives of Catholic and evangelical groups in signing an unprecedented pledge of cooperation March 29.

"I feel like evangelicals have a lot more in common today with conservative Catholics than we do with liberal Protestants who deny the cardinal doctrines of our faith," explained Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board, one of the signers.

"Some of us feel like we're fighting for our life to keep Judeo-Christian values intact in America today," Lewis added. "It's going to take all the strength we can muster to fight against this onslaught of secular humanism."

Lewis was joined by Richard Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, among initial signers of the 25-page document titled "Evangelicals and Catholics Together."

A landmark document outlining agreement between prominent evangelical and Catholic leaders has drawn less-than-typical reactions from Southern Baptists.

Land and Lewis, who represent the most conservative side of Southern Baptists, drew immediate criticism from some of their conservative brethren and praise from some of their usual critics.

Stan Hastey, executive director of the Alliance of Baptists, a mainly East Coast group of more liberal Southern Baptists, lauded the document for enriching the dialogue between Protestants and Catholics.

But Ben Rogers, a vocational evangelist from Longview, Texas, criticized Lewis and Land for not being conservative enough in their theology.

"Are we to accept Catholicism as biblical Christianity rather than the perversion of Christianity that it is?" Rogers asked in a letter to Lewis March 30. "Catholicism is still pro-pope, pro-Mary, and pro-sacrament. No renewal movement in Catholicism has ever corrected errors in Catholic doctrine."

Rogers, a doctoral graduate of and former professor at conservative Luther Rice Seminary, noted that signers of the document condemn any "needless and loveless conflicts between ourselves." Then he asked, "Was the Reformation a 'needless and loveless conflict'?"

He specifically criticized a portion of the document that calls on evangelicals and Catholics to stop proselytizing or "sheep stealing" from each other's folds.

The document states: "In view of the large number of non-Christians in the world and the enormous challenge of our common evangelistic task, it is neither theologically legitimate nor a prudent use of resources for one Christian community to proselytize among active adherents of another Christian community."

"It is one thing to unite against hunger, crime, and abortion issues,

and quite another to become a victim of compromise by worshipping with any apostate group," Rogers wrote in his letter. "Although there are born-again individuals in Catholicism, the theological system is not biblical Christianity."

The joint document will highlight different streams within conservative evangelicalism, predicted a sociologist and professor of world religions.

Nancy Ammerman, a Southern Baptist who teaches sociology of religion at Emory University, said those who are likely to join Rogers in denouncing the document are the "traditional southern Southern Baptists." Those who are likely to applaud it are the "politicized conservatives."

"The people who've been in the trenches on abortion and gay rights are probably not going to be upset by this in the same way as people who are in the traditional

Southern Baptist mold," she explained.

James Chancellor, professor of Christian missions and world religions at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., said Baptist conservatives are driven by two different agendas, one concerned with social issues and the other concerned with missions and evangelism.

Sometimes the two overlap, but sometimes they do not, he said. "Here's a demonstration of how these two can lead to disparity."

In this case, the pledge of non-proselytizing "demonstrates the dominance of the social agenda over against the evangelism agenda," he suggested.

The idea that Baptists who affirm conservative evangelical theology can find common ground with Catholics is supported by Al Mohler, president of Southern Seminary.

Harry Piland to join staff of First, Dallas

NASHVILLE (BP) — Harry Piland, director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Bible teaching-reaching division, will become associate pastor/minister of education at the 25,000-member First Church of Dallas beginning May 29.

Piland, 65, will conclude his duties as division director April 30. He said he began almost a year ago to consider returning to a church staff position, reducing travel and having more time with his family.

BSSB President James T. Draper Jr. said, "Now that he has reached age 65 and sees the need for fewer travel demands in his schedule and more time with his family, he is moving into a new assignment. Carol Ann and I are praying for Harry and Pat as they begin this new era of their lives serving with the great Church of Dallas. He will continue to be

available to the BSSB to lead conferences and promote this ministry."

During Piland's tenure as leader of the Bible teaching program, enrollment in Southern Baptist Sunday schools has increased by more than 900,000, from 7.3 million to 8.2 million.

"At this time in my life and ministry, God is calling me back to the local church, my first love," Piland told the staff of the Bible teaching-reaching division March 23.

"I will miss working with the incredibly gifted Bible teaching-reaching division and the church growth group staffs more than I can adequately express. I will greatly miss serving in ministry with the more than 38,000 Southern Baptist Convention churches, each of which I profoundly respect and deeply love."

Volunteers needed for Orlando WMU project

ORLANDO, Fla. — Woman's Missionary Union is looking for volunteers who are interested in participating in mission projects during June 6-10 in Orlando, Fla.

The projects precede the WMU Annual Meeting which will be held at First Church, Orlando, June 12-13.

Volunteers are needed for the following assignments:

— mingle with crowds after puppet shows are given by US2 missionaries in malls, campgrounds, and hotels;

— help US2 missionaries host "Parents' Night Out" activities for children in area hotels;

— stay in area campgrounds and help US2 missionaries build relationships with other campers; and

— lead Backyard Bible Clubs and Big A Clubs for children living in apartment complexes.

For more information, call (205) 991-4083 or write Pat Ferguson, Mission Project Coordinator, WMU, P.O. Box 830010, Birmingham, AL 35283-0010.

Churches adopt Expanded Annuity Plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the March 3 issue of *The Baptist Record*: Hinds-Madison: Highland Colony and Simpson: First, Magee.

SWBTS trustees send letter to SBC pastors, associations

By Herb Hollinger

FORT WORTH (BP) — Trustee officers of Southwestern Seminary have sent a letter to all Southern Baptist pastors and directors of associational missions explaining the trustee position in the firing of President Russell H. Dilday Jr. on March 9.

The four-page letter is co-signed by trustee chairman Ralph W. Pulley Jr. of Dallas; vice chairman Lee Weaver of Fort Worth; and secretary T. Bob Davis of Dallas.

An offer of early retirement, the letter said, was rejected by Dilday "out of hand with an unwillingness to read the provisions."

"Although a strong attempt had been made during the last five years to work in concert with the president, it was increasingly impossible and an impasse had been reached," the officers said in the letter.

However, the trustees suggested there were some things in the process they might have done differently.

"We now understand had we better informed our Southern Baptist

family about the difficulty we were having, the shock of the dismissal would not have been so great. We apologize for the appearance of abruptness."

The letter goes on to describe "philosophical differences" between the trustees and Dilday.

"The trustees tried to work cooperatively with (Dilday) but efforts led to frustration and lack of confidence and trust." The officers then listed four areas Dilday was unwilling to cooperate with the board:

1) Repeated criticisms of the denominational leaders, members of the board, and others.

2) Failing to adhere to directives of the board (that Dilday) not be involved in the SBC controversy. Trustees feel he is "strongly sympathetic" to the CBF agenda.

3) Saying the "heart" of the controversy in the SBC is a battle over the nature of Scripture, the officers said Dilday used his office to champion "the position from one side of the debate... as he shifts the emphasis from the nature to the purpose of Scripture."

"Dilday demonstrates a commitment to the principles of higher criticism, which spawned theological liberalism (modernism), neo-orthodoxy, the death of God, situational ethics, etc. From a decidedly biased position, Dr. Dilday is dedicated to berate, misrepresent, and assail those who hold the Bible to be God's inerrant, infallible, and authoritative Word."

4) The relationship became one of constant confrontation, both individually and collectively.

The officers noted in the letter that students and faculty members have expressed loyalty to the former president.

"We understand their dilemma and think their concern is commendable," the letter read.

News reports that Dilday had received a positive or favorable annual performance review the night before he was fired were labeled "rumor" by the officers, "... simply a misstatement of fact or it is his own interpretation of what happened."

Hollinger is director, Baptist Press.

Russell Dilday counters assertions in SBC-wide mailing from trustees

By Toby Druin

FORT WORTH (BP) — Russell H. Dilday Jr. said he is "appalled" by "inaccuracies and distortions of truth" in a letter explaining his March 9 firing being sent by Southwestern Seminary trustees to Southern Baptist pastors and directors of associational missions.

The idea that the retirement plan offered to him was a "generous offer" is "absolutely false," said Dilday. "It was offered in a confrontational spirit, which I looked at long enough to realize while generous in total it was really a buyout, almost an effort to bribe me to leave, and no matter how generous I could not in good faith accept it."

Dilday continued, "When they speak of an impasse, gridlock, that simply does not represent an accurate description of the actions of

the board. They have approved every recommendation I have brought with one or two exceptions, and we have moved forward without slowing the process at all."

Dilday said the only statement the trustees have made on the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship was the one made at the March meeting when instead of speaking directly about the CBF, they affirmed the Cooperative Program. No policy existed about speakers from the CBF for him to violate, he said. Parks had been invited to speak before he joined the CBF staff, and Dilday simply reported it to the trustees at the March meeting, noting the invitation still stood, he said.

As to that having any bearing on his dismissal, Dilday said, the decision to fire him already had been made before the trustee

meeting began.

Dilday said that "not a single time" had he failed to carry out any directives in the minutes of the board.

"And as to my supposed sympathy with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, I am on public record as not endorsing the Fellowship as the way forward in the convention. I have taken no action that would imply anything other than that my total commitment has always been to support the Cooperative Program and the Southern Baptist Convention. That reference in the trustee letter is simply a false statement."

The criticism of his book on biblical authority "is an absolute misreading of my book," Dilday countered. "And as to my 'berating' those who hold to the Bible being inerrant, infallible, and authoritative, my total commitment has been and is that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God without any question whatsoever, and I have held that to be the standard for the seminary, its faculty, and curriculum as well."

"The only complaint last year was the statement by Damon Shook that I had brought in faculty members who were biblically and theologically conservative but not politically conservative," Dilday said.

"I am just appalled that they would send to pastors and denominational leaders such a distorted, untrue, and misrepresentative statement."

Druin is associate editor, Texas BAPTIST STANDARD.

Thursday, April 7, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



New MBREA officers

The 1994 officers of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association (MBREA) met March 29 for their first planning session since being elected at the group's annual convention in February. MBREA is a professional organization for Mississippi Baptists religious educators. The educators' next statewide meeting is Oct. 31, in conjunction with the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Pictured (left to right) are: Joe Armour, Clinton, president-elect; Randy Tompkins, Jackson, vice president; B.J. Teague, Columbus, second vice president; Marcus Peagler, Jackson, president; and David Webb, Picayune, secretary-treasurer. (Photo by Teresa Dickens)

Texas moderates weigh options for protesting Russell Dilday's firing

DALLAS (ABP) — Moderate Texas Baptists outraged by the firing of seminary president Russell Dilday met with leaders of the state Baptist convention March 26 to discuss ways to voice their displeasure.

But the consensus, according to participants, was to work through established denominational channels and not pursue radical measures.

Since the March 9 firing of Dilday by trustees of Southwestern Seminary, some Texas Baptists had talked about starting another seminary, withholding contributions from the Fort Worth school, or even leading the state convention to secede from the national Southern Baptist Convention, which since 1979 has followed a decidedly conservative course.

But the estimated 50 moderate leaders who attended the March 26 meeting in Dallas eschewed those options for a more traditional approach, said Houston pastor Daniel Vestal.

"The overall consensus was to make our influence felt through official channels," said Vestal, a member of the executive committee of Texas Baptists Committed, a moderate organization that called the meeting.

Those channels include a study committee that is already weighing the involvement of Texas Baptists in the national budget of the Southern Baptist Convention, the Cooperative Program.

Some Texas Baptists are calling for the state convention to reduce the portion of church contributions that is passed on to the Cooperative Program in protest of the conservative domination of national SBC agencies like Southwestern.

That portion — now 35% — likely will drop, said Phil Lineberger, a former state conven-

tion president and pastor of First Church of Tyler.

Vestal said the effect of Dilday's firing on Texas Baptists has been "traumatic" and "sobering."

"What was done to Southwestern Seminary was not done to Southern Baptists but was done primarily to Texas Baptists," added Lineberger. "Texas Baptists, in their psyche and heart, still feel ownership of Southwestern Seminary," which was founded at Baylor and once owned by the state convention.

The largest state convention affiliated with the SBC, with an annual budget of \$63 million, the Baptist General Convention of Texas holds significant sway in the national body. Despite the gains made by conservatives nationally, moderates in Texas remain in firm control of their state convention.

The state convention's size, coupled with the legendary independent mindset of Texans, could lead the state's Baptists to chart a course distinct from the national convention, Lineberger suggested.

The result, he said, may be a Texas Baptist budget that allows churches to pick and choose what causes to support and how to channel their money, all the while maintaining their status as "cooperative" churches.

Talk of secession from the SBC is far-fetched, however, the Texas pastors said.

Individual churches may decide to reduce or eliminate their involvement in the SBC because "they are tired of the political control of the Southern Baptist Convention by fundamentalists," said Vestal. But, he said, "Baptists Committed is not trying to get people to leave the Southern Baptist Convention. That's not what we are about."

Ridgecrest, Glorieta have new toll-free reservation numbers

NASHVILLE — Glorieta (N.M.) and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Conference Centers have adopted several new business procedures designed to provide customers with an enhanced quality of services and facilities for training, worship, and enrichment.

Effective immediately, pastors, church staff, and laypersons planning to attend conferences at Glorieta can call (800) 797-4222. Those planning to attend Ridgecrest events can call (800) 588-7222. These numbers are for making reservations only and cannot be

used for contacting conference center personnel.

Instead of only accepting reservations by mail, they now can be made in person, by FAX (Glorieta, (505) 757-6149; Ridgecrest, (704) 669-9721), or by writing to: Reservations, Glorieta Conference Center, P.O. Box 8, Glorieta, NM; or Ridgecrest Conference Center, P.O. Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC, 28770.

Also effective immediately, the conference centers are accepting payment by four major credit cards: Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.

capsules

NEA HELPS FUND BLOODY "EROTIC TORTURE" PERFORMANCE: MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (EP) — An "erotic torture" performance underwritten in part by the National Endowment for the Arts has drawn criticism from Christian organizations. The Walker Art Center in Minneapolis recently hosted a performance by Ron Athey, an HIV-positive artist, whose performance included slicing an abstract pattern into the flesh of another man, mopping up the blood with towels, then sending the bloody towels out above the audience on revolving clotheslines. Athey also had acupuncture needles woven into his scalp, pierced his arm with about 30 hypodermic needles, and pierced the cheeks of female assistants with steel spikes. Walker Director Kathy Halbreich, who did not attend the performance, nonetheless defended it, telling the *Star Tribune*, "You can describe any action out of context and make it seem sensational and without meaning." Halbreich said the performance needed to be understood in terms of religious precedent, including "the rituals of the church and the body and blood of Christ being used." The performance was funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and was presented in conjunction with a homosexual film festival. Tom Kligannon, director of communications for the Christian Action Network, called the performance "a sickening and revolting use of tax dollars" and criticized members of Congress for their continued support of the National Endowment for the Arts and its head, Jane Alexander. American Family Association Vice President Tim Wildmon said the event "proves that the NEA is continuing to fund degenerate art and forcing taxpayers to pay for it... It is past time to eliminate this \$174 million per year agency."

9-YEAR-OLD ATTEMPTS CROSS-COUNTRY FLIGHT: PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — While most 9-year-olds spend their weekends playing basketball, one Phoenix boy has spent his time mastering the controls of an airplane. Aaron Wax, a Royal Ambassador from North Phoenix Church, left Phoenix March 23 in an attempt to become the youngest person to pilot a plane coast-to-coast. Aaron, his father, Sanford, and flight instructor Toby Ledbetter took off in a 172 Cessna from Phoenix-Deer Valley Municipal Airport March 23 to begin their six-day journey. They expected to fly a total of six hours per day on the 4,000-mile trip as they head for Kitty Hawk, N.C., back to San Diego, Calif., and then home to Phoenix. The project is dedicated to making people aware of the needs of the homeless in the Phoenix area, especially the children, Aaron's father said. Aaron is active in the Royal Ambassador program at North Phoenix and says he enjoys learning about the missionaries. Along with patches he received from Air Force pilots, his flight suit includes his RA Crown Crusaders patch.

NEW MISSIONARIES NEEDED TO EVANGELIZE THE WORLD BY 2000: COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (EP) — For the first time in American missions history, the number of career missionaries is dropping, according to the Mission Advanced Research and Communication Center (MARC). In response, representatives of the AD 2000 & Beyond Movement have called for thousands of new missionaries from the United States, in order to reach their goal of "a church for every people and the gospel for every person by the year 2000. We as the Body of Christ are calling for 200,000 new missionaries, and half of them should come from the United States," said George Verwer, chairman of one of the networks of the AD 2000 & Beyond Movement, a worldwide coalition of evangelical churches and organizations. Verwer, founder of Operation Mobilization, announced the challenge at a consultation of international coordinators of the movement. Amy Stearns, U.S. Coordinator for the Mobilizing New Missionaries Network, said, "There's no way there will be a church for every people and the gospel proclaimed to every person by the year 2000 without a massive surge of new missionaries." Stearns said that the number of missionaries is dropping because "many of the missionary generation that went out after World War II are now retiring. But they're not being replaced." In 1988, the U.S. had more than 50,000 missionaries overseas. By 1992, the number dwindled to about 41,000.

CLINTON DISCUSSES HIS FAITH ON NATIONAL T.V.: WASHINGTON (ABP) — President Bill Clinton, a Southern Baptist, believes in Jesus Christ, but not in using the office of the presidency to force his beliefs on others, he told ABC News recently. Clinton told ABC News religion correspondent Peggy Wehmeyer, in interviews aired March 22 and 23, he's comfortable using language referring to Christ as his Savior. "As a Christian, that's how I know God," Clinton said. "I mean, I know God through Jesus. That's what the Christians do." What he is not comfortable with, Clinton said, is using his office to say, "You must do that, you must believe that, you must be governed by these laws, because that's what the Bible told me to do to you." Clinton, a member of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, Ark., said he has had an aversion since youth to people who seemed to be publicly pious. "I've never wanted to be seen as a Pharisee," he said. Nonetheless, personal faith is important to him, he said. "I do not believe I could do my job as president, much less continue to try to grow as a person, in the absence of my faith in God and my attempt to learn more about what it should be and to grow," he told ABC. "And it provides a solace and support in the face of all these problems that I sometimes am not smart enough to solve."

Cost of doing church today outpaces per capita income

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (BP) — While the price of some things — like radios, auto tires and ball-point pens — has gone down over the years, the price of churchgoing has gone up, according to analyst Lyle Schaller.

Schaller, a consultant with Yokefellow Institute and a Methodist minister, was the principal speaker during the "Leadership for the 21st Century" conference, held in Springfield, Mo., and sponsored by several Baptist entities.

The cost of maintaining churches — along with schools, hospitals and other institutions oriented toward person-centered services — is increasing faster than per capita income, Schaller said.

People expect more from churches today than they used to, and that isn't going to change, he said. Churches are spending more

to provide staff for specialized ministries, off-street parking, air conditioning, and so forth.

The typical church today needs to take in about \$15 per worshiper each Sunday to maintain its ministries, Schaller said. For some churches, the cost is as high as \$30-\$40. But many worshipers still think \$1 or \$5 in the offering plate is enough.

"We haven't done a good job of communicating what the cost of church is," Schaller said. "One of the reasons... is we're reluctant to talk about it."

Schaller pointed out if churches try to cope with the issue just by educating people about the cost, however, the probable result will be a focus on reducing costs.

Television evangelists and charitable organizations, meanwhile, will continue competing for their church members' money, Schaller said. "If you don't ask

people for occasional extra money, somebody else will."

Focusing on the impact of automobiles on churches, Schaller said, "Probably the most common characteristic of churches represented in this room is, your parking lot's too small."

The 71-year-old recalled a time when many families walked to church, and later, when all the members of a family drove to church in one car. Now, he said, it is not unusual for one family to bring three cars. In 1968, 7% of teenagers owned automobiles; in 1992, 30 percent did.

Because people can drive a distance more easily, many churches are becoming regional rather than neighborhood churches, Schaller said. Churches no longer can think of their constituency in just a geographical sense, they must seek to reach groups of people based on other commonalities.

SBC Christian Life Commission criticizes North Carolina editor

NASHVILLE (BP) — Officials of the Christian Life Commission have sent a four-page letter severely criticizing three editorials in the *Biblical Recorder*, newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, to every Baptist pastor in the state.

Although state Baptist papers have on occasion criticized SBC

agencies, it is believed to be the first time a SBC agency has sent a letter to state pastors criticizing a state agency. The commission's March 15 letter was sent to 3,547 pastors at a cost of about \$1,300. North Carolina is second in number of Southern Baptist churches — Texas has 4,200 churches — among the states cooperating with the SBC, according to 1992 statistics.

At issue in the letter are three editorials concerning two matters: the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the church-state test known as the "Lemon" test. One of the editorials calls for abolishing the CLC.

CLC Executive Director Richard D. Land and commission trustee Charles D. Page, pastor of First Church in Charlotte, N.C.,

signed the lengthy letter.

R. Gene Puckett, *Biblical Recorder* editor, called the letter "long and defensive; it speaks volumes about CLC's guilt at the points I have made."

The letter says the CLC has no desire to engage in a "public brawl" between Baptist organizations, as "such family feuding is an embarrassment to the family and to our Father."

But, truth is important, the letter reads, and "North Carolina Baptists have a right to know the truth when one of their leaders bears false witness. And we have the duty to tell the truth and trust the people after we have followed the prescription of Matthew 18:20 to privately confront him and ask him to make amends."

Va. panel holds first meeting

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A committee of leading Virginia Baptist pastors set aside practical issues in their first meeting to rebuild trust lost during years of denominational struggle.

The Presidential Council on Cooperation agreed in a March 10 session in Richmond, Va., to hold three-man meetings later in the month to bring together one conservative, moderate, and unaligned person for fellowship.

The council was appointed Nov. 30 by Ronald Crawford, president of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. Its goal is to "explore ways to enhance cooperation, trust, and mutual respect in Virginia Baptist life," said Crawford, pastor of Lakeside Church in Richmond.

The six-hour meeting sparked few heated exchanges between conservatives and moderates, mostly because issues that have divided the two groups largely went unaddressed. Instead, committee co-chairs Tommy Taylor and Neal Jones led the 19-minister, one-layman committee to talk about their points of agreement.

Inclusive membership of top 15 U.S. church bodies

Church Body	'94 Yearbook	'93 Yearbook	% Change
Roman Catholic Ch.	59,220,723(1992)	58,267,424(1991)	+1.63
Southern Baptist Conv	15,358,866(1992)	15,232,347(1991)	+0.83
United Methodist Ch.	8,789,101(1991)	8,785,135(1991)	+0.04
Nat'l. Bapt. Conv. USA	8,200,000(1992)	8,000,000(1992)	+2.50
Church of God in Christ	5,499,875(1991)	5,499,875(1991)	—
Evang. Luth. Ch. in Am.	5,234,568(1992)	5,245,177(1991)	-0.20
Latter-Day Sts/Mormon	4,430,000(1992)	4,336,000(1991)	+2.16
Presbyterian Ch. (USA)	3,758,085(1992)	3,778,358(1991)	-0.53
Af. Meth. Episc. Church	3,500,000(1992)	3,500,000(1991)	0.00
Nat'l. Bapt. Conv. of Am.	3,500,000(1987)	3,500,000(1987)	—
Luth. Ch.-Mo. Synod	2,609,905(1992)	2,607,309(1991)	+0.09
Nat'l. Missionary Bapt.	2,500,000(1992)	2,500,000(1992)	—
Progressive Nat'l. Bapt	2,500,000(1991)	2,500,000(1991)	—
The Episcopal Church	2,471,880(1991)	2,471,880(1990)	—
Assemblies of God	2,257,846(1992)	2,234,708(1992)	+1.03

Figures are U.S. membership only and represent the most recent data made available to the Yearbook, as reported for each of the two Yearbooks by the denominations. In parentheses are the years for which denominations said they were submitting the data.

— Source: Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches 1994

HOUSE TOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

April 7, 1994

HouseTops is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

1994

STATE YOUTH FOUR PART MUSIC FESTIVAL

KEYBOARD

*"Rejoice, ye pure in heart, Rejoice, give thanks and sing
Beneath the standard of your God, The Cross of Christ your king.
Bright youth and snow crowned age, strong men and maidens fair,
Raise high your free, exulting song, God's wondrous praise declare.
Rejoice, rejoice, Rejoice, rejoice, Rejoice, give thanks and sing."*

The strains of this hymn could be heard from the sanctuary of Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson, as those in attendance for the State Youth Four Part Music Festival lifted their voices in song accompanied at the console of the organ by G. Edward Ludlow, Blue Mountain College.

Other college faculty assisting in the keyboard adjudication were June Meyer, Blue Mountain College; Janet Taylor and Ralph Taylor, Mississippi College; Howard Keever and Jeff McLelland, William Carey College.

Participants were youth in grades 10, 11, 12 who, as participants in an area festival received superior ratings in the playing of a hymn, hymn arrangement and piece from traditional piano or organ literature. They presented the same selections at the State Keyboard Festival.

College music scholarship awards were presented to six graduating seniors. Requirements were that each participant receive a superior rating on all presentations at the State Festival and prior to this festival had received at an area festival superior ratings in the three proficiency areas: sight reading, accompanying and modulation-transposition. Receiving the college music scholarships were: Crystal Ingram, Carthage; Amanda Peoples, McComb; Joseph Walters, Laurel; Mandy Holifield, Ellisville; Kelly Hennington and Hope Fairchild, Purvis.

The college music scholarship award is \$200.00 and will be matched by a Mississippi Baptist college when a participant chooses to attend either, Blue Mountain College, Mississippi College or William Carey College.

Scholarship awards of \$25.00 each to a Baptist summer music event were presented to participants who achieved superior in each area of adjudication. Receiving this award in addition to those seniors already mentioned were: Joel Tillery, Meridian; Monica L. Watkins, Petal; Jamie Ray, Vicksburg; Kathy Jones, Jackson; Shanna L. Norman, Clinton; Kimberly Ann Granger, Natchez; Brian Eads, Gore Springs; Heather Hite, Walls; Denita Norton, Walls; Emily Smith, Collinsville; Jane Griffin, Jackson; Jennifer R. Walker, Crystal Springs; Mary Lawler, Carthage; Jeff Crow, Greenwood; Ashley Jones, Southaven; Brenda Jenkins, Jackson.

"Rejoice Ye pure in heart, Rejoice give thanks and sing."



Take the

INITIATIVE!

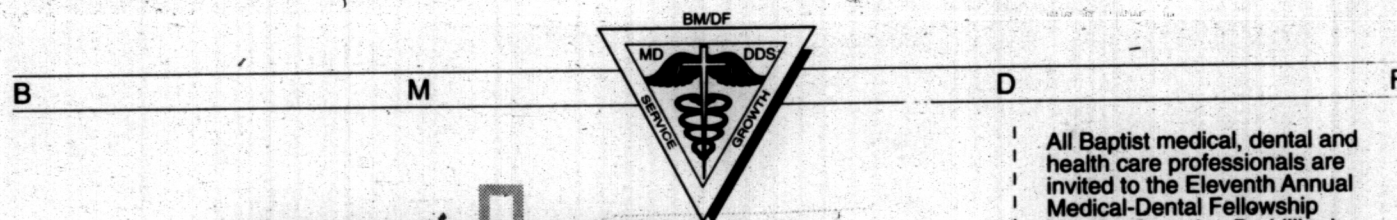
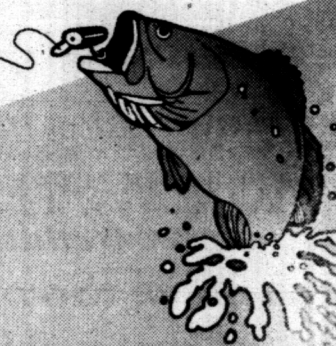
Canoe, Snorkel, Hike, Fish,
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Single Adult Retreat
Gulfshore Baptist Assembly
May 28-30, 1994

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Eleventh Annual MEDICAL-DENTAL FELLOWSHIP MEETING

LOCATION
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH JACKSON
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD BUILDING
CHAPEL

DATE
MAY 6-7, 1994

TIME
BEGINNING AT 6 P.M.



All Baptist medical, dental and health care professionals are invited to the Eleventh Annual Medical-Dental Fellowship Meeting featuring Dr. Lillia de Larios.

May 6 -- Fellowship and Banquet, 6 p.m. FBC, Jackson, Fellowship Hall West
May 7 -- Continental breakfast and Conferences, 8 a.m., Baptist Building, Chapel

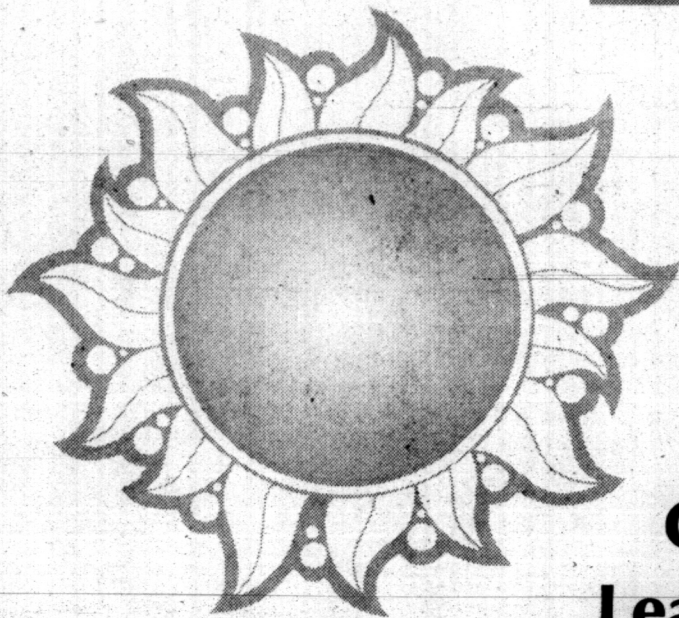
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What's New at Gulfshore This Summer? Church Leadeship Conferences!!

So what's new about that? Training for all organizational workers -- Sunday School, Discipleship Training, Brotherhood and WMU leaders. (Pastors will also be offered training.) All at the same time?

Now that is new! All workers in a church can get in a van, come to Gulfshore at the same time and receive training in their organization work. If they work in two organizations, they can receive four and one-half hours of basic training in each of the two places they work. If they only serve in one organization, they can receive nine hours of training and they get to choose from 60 different topics. They may also receive Study Course credit towards their leadership diploma.

Note: There will not be Sunday school nor Discipleship Training only conferences this summer. WMU leaders will still be offered training at Garaywa but they may receive the same training at Gulfshore this summer. Imagine that! All workers trained at the same place! At the same time!

This is a new day for training church leaders. There will also be provisions (learning experiences) for children of conference participants at Gulfshore.

GROWING CHURCHES

*for
Tomorrow*

Conferences for training all

**Brotherhood,
Discipleship Training,
Sunday School,
WMU leaders,
Pastors and Staff**

Choose either of these dates.

- I — July 7-9, 1994
- II — July 14-16, 1994
- III — July 28-30, 1994
- IV — August 4-6, 1994



**Gulfshore
Baptist
Assembly**

Session One:

Thursday, 7:40 - 9:10 p.m.

(Choose one)

1. ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
2. YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
3. MISSION FRIENDS
4. ROYAL AMBASSADORS
5. WMU GENERAL OFFICERS
6. CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL
7. PASTOR/STAFF
8. YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL
9. CHILDREN DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
10. BAPTIST WOMEN
11. BAPTIST YOUNG WOMEN
12. BAPTIST MEN
13. PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL
14. SUNDAY SCHOOL GENERAL OFFICERS
15. ADULT DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
16. PRESCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
17. GIRLS IN ACTION
18. ACTEENS
19. CHALLENGERS
20. DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING GENERAL OFFICERS

For Sessions
One through
Three, choose
the number
which corre-
sponds to your
area of ministry
and attend that
numbered con-
ference series
during each
session

Or

Make three
independent
choices

Session Four:

Friday, 7:40-9:10 p.m.

(Choose one)

1. ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
2. YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
3. MISSION FRIENDS
4. ROYAL AMBASSADORS
5. WMU GENERAL OFFICERS
6. CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL
7. PASTOR/STAFF
8. Issues Facing Youth
9. Programming For Children
10. Involving Women in Ministry
11. Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts
12. Developing a Prayer Ministry
13. Safety and Security for Preschoolers
14. Effective Weekly Workers Meeting
15. Family Ministry
16. Understanding Twos & Threes
17. Understanding Younger Children
18. Understanding Junior High
19. Understanding Senior High
20. Sharing an Authentic Witness

For Sessions
Four through
Six, choose the
number which
corresponds to
your secondary
area of ministry
in your church
and attend that
series of three
conferences

Or

Make three
independent
choices

CONFUSED YET!
NOT TO WORRY — COME TO THE
CONFERENCE AND ALL WILL BE
MADE CLEAR.

CONFERENCE FEES

Special rates apply for children staying in the room
with parents.

"A" Unit (2 persons per room)

Adults	\$72.70
Child (Age 2-11)	35.10
Babies	2.00

"C" Unit (2-4 persons per room)

Adults	\$66.70
Youth (12 yrs to 12th Grade)	36.70
Child (Age 2-11)	20.85
Babies	2.00

A deposit of \$30.00 per person or \$60.00 per
family must accompany requests for reservations.
Contact Gulfshore Assembly for cancellation
policies.

Session Two:

Friday, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

(Choose one)

1. Understanding College Students
2. Creative Methods for Teaching Youth
3. Understanding Fours & Fives
4. Understanding Older Children
5. Mission Action/Support
6. Reaching Children
7. Pastor/Staff
8. Issues Facing Youth
9. Programming For Children
10. Involving Women in Ministry
11. Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts
12. Developing a Prayer Ministry
13. Safety and Security for Preschoolers
14. Effective Weekly Workers Meeting
15. Understanding Senior Adults
16. Understanding Twos & Threes
17. Understanding Younger Children
18. Understanding Junior High
19. Understanding Senior High
20. Sharing an Authentic Witness

Session Five:

Saturday, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

(Choose one)

1. Ethnic Ministry
2. Creative Methods for Teaching Youth
3. Understanding Fours & Fives
4. Understanding Older Children
5. Mission Action/Support
6. Reaching Children
7. Pastor/Staff
8. YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL
9. CHILDREN DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
10. BAPTIST WOMEN
11. BAPTIST YOUNG WOMEN
12. BAPTIST MEN
13. PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL
14. Prospect Visitation
15. Understanding Senior Adults
16. Preschool Learning Environment
17. Healthy Approaches to Discipline
18. Youth Trends
19. Youth Ministry in the Small Church
20. DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING GENERAL OFFICERS

Session Three:

Friday, 10:30 a.m.- noon

(Choose one)

1. Ethnic Ministry
2. Christian Sex Education In Your Church
3. Child Advocacy
4. Hope For A Hurting Humanity
5. WMU Enlistment/Enlargement
6. Children & Conversion
7. Pastor/Staff
8. Reaching Youth
9. Creative Methods for Teaching Children
10. Understanding Median Adults
11. Understanding Single Adults
12. Understanding Young Adults
13. Understanding Birth Through Toddlers
14. Prospect Visitation
15. Family Ministry
16. Preschool Learning Environment
17. Healthy Approaches to Discipline
18. Youth Trends
19. Youth Ministry in the Small Church
20. How to Assimilate New Members

Session Six:

Saturday, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

(Choose one)

1. Understanding College Students
2. Christian Sex Education in Your Church
3. Child Advocacy
4. Hope for A Hurting Humanity
5. WMU Enlistment/Enlargement
6. Children & Conversion
7. Pastor/Staff
8. Reaching Youth
9. Creative Methods for Teaching Children
10. Understanding Median Adults
11. Understanding Single Adults
12. Understanding Young Adults
13. Understanding Birth Through Toddlers
14. SUNDAY SCHOOL GENERAL OFFICERS
15. ADULT DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
16. PRESCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
17. GIRLS IN ACTION
18. ACTEENS/CO-ED MISSIONS
19. CHALLENGERS
20. HOW TO ASSIMILATE NEW MEMBERS

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April 13-30, 1994

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for teachers of children affected 17	for families who had loss by death 18	for yourself, that you will minister personally to someone, by mail or phone, if necessary 19	for your church, that it will seek out more ways to be of help 20	for your own family, that it will be careful to be more grateful for its blessings 21	for your own family, if it is one of the affected families, to be able to receive the ministry of those who care 22	for government agencies to be prompt with help 23
for each of us to be sensitive to the needs of these folks, even these months and weeks after the disaster 24	for the lost individuals who do not have a personal relationship with God to help them during this difficult time 25	for the safety of clean-up crews and individuals doing their own cleaning-up 26	for pastors as they prepare sermons week by week to meet the needs of all their people 27	for ministers of music as they plan for their part in worship services which will be a strength for all their people 28	for ministers of education as they develop and maintain programs which help all their people learn more about God and their responsibility in His work 29	for volunteer leaders in churches without staff positions, as they plan, prepare and participate in worship services to meet the needs of their people 30

Springtime

— not many places in the world are as blessed with beauty the way Mississippi is in the springtime...

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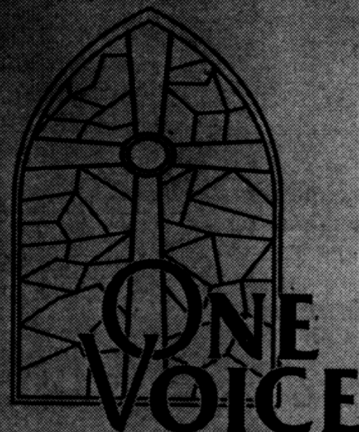
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April 24, 1994

David Michel,
interim pastor



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- The Impact of the Preacher on the Sermon
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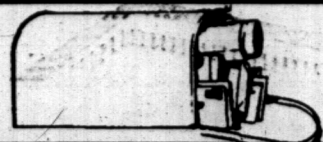
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HOUSE OF GOD



Letters to the editor



Undesirable models

Editor:

During the past three weeks I have read many letters and articles from pastors, trustees, current students, and laymen concerning the recent firing of Russell Dilday. I am a fairly recent graduate ('88) of Southwestern and I wanted to add yet another perspective.

The integrity and commitment of Russell Dilday was and continues to be evident by the way he encourages and challenges students. It is also evidenced in the administrative choices he's made — hiring conservative, committed professors and in his handling of the recent actions of the trustees at SWBTS. Russell Dilday doesn't have to be defended, his life and his work stand on their own merit — I know because I saw and experienced them firsthand.

I have tried so hard to avoid taking sides in the SBC controversy. I kept hoping and praying that we could reach an agreement and get on with the Lord's work. God-inspired Scripture and the stamping out of liberalism are two worthy banners to wave. I wholeheartedly agree with both! I do not want liberal theology taught in our seminaries. But this latest action by the trustees of SWBTS has shown very clearly that their agenda is neither of the aforementioned goals — it is power and control.

As I prayed and searched my Bible for answers to this seemingly endless assault, I looked at the life of Jesus — our Model. Nowhere did I find him lying, fighting for control, or treating individuals the way so many have been treated in the past 10 years in the SBC. He taught that we, as

leaders and disciples, are to be servants — not power-wielding politicians. Would Jesus be pleased that Russell Dilday was lied to and fired without reason in his name? I think not.

My intent is not to be judgmental or sarcastic — only the Lord can truly judge if this act was warranted. But as a true Bible-believing, conservative Southern Baptist, I have to question a group whose philosophy is that the end justifies the means and whose desire and goal is to control every phase of my Christian life as a Southern Baptist. This is not the Southern Baptist denomination I grew up in and these are certainly not the models I would want my children or church youth group to follow.

Nancy Redding
Minister of music/youth
First Church, Macon

Keep SBC pure

Editor:

I noticed in the March 10 Baptist Record that Linda Jordan, the first woman pastor of Olin T. Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, N.C., plans to resign. She cited the repercussions that resulted from the expulsion of Binkley from the Southern Baptist Convention in 1992. Binkley was ousted because it licensed a homosexual to the ministry.

As a conservative Southern Baptist, I find it rather appalling that Binkley even had the gall to ordain a woman as pastor in 1990, and then license a homosexual to the ministry in April 1992. Binkley's actions were clearly contrary to the Bible. The Bible plainly teaches that homosexuality is an abomination to the Lord, and those

who practice it will not inherit the kingdom of God. By licensing a homosexual, Binkley was in effect condoning homosexuality. Regarding the ordination of Linda Jordan as pastor in May 1990, that was also contrary to the Bible. The Bible clearly teaches that only men should be pastors (1 Cor. 14:34-35; 1 Tim. 2:12 and 3:1-7; and Titus 1:5-6).

Because of its blatant endorsement of homosexuality, Binkley was expelled from the Southern Baptist Convention in June 1992. The SBC did the right thing when it expelled Binkley. Our denomination was founded by people who believed the whole Bible. Our founders believed in sexual purity and opposed the ordination of women.

Since the majority of us are a people of the Book, we have an obligation to keep the SBC doctrinally pure. Churches that deviate from any doctrine taught in the Bible and clearly expressed in the "Baptist Faith and Message" do not belong in our denomination.

Kevin Waller
Bude

Who's on hot seat?

Editor:

Southwestern's sudden firing of Russell Dilday raises some very interesting questions. These trustees had been working with Dr. Dilday for some time without giving any indication that things were bad enough for a firing. Then why this sudden action of such significant proportions? It would seem rather evident that they were under pressure from some outside source. Who do you suppose was exerting such pressure, and why?

A rather interesting supposition would be to think some powerful

fundamental/conservative was on a hot seat at his present place of employment and needed some place to go without suffering the embarrassment of a firing. So the pressure was put on for rapid action. It will be real interesting to see who that person was.

Ryburn T. Stancil
Brookhaven

Pastor needed

Editor:

The Kitzingen Baptist Church, a congregation of 150 people, located in Kitzingen, West Germany, which is about 1 1/2 hours east of Frankfurt, is in need of a pastor. The congregation is mainly people connected with the American military. Our church is affiliated with the European Baptist Convention (English language) and is founded on the principles and doctrines of the Southern Baptist Convention. If God is leading you to pastor in a missions setting, please contact: Jack Frey, B Co. 7/159 Avn, Unit #26405 Box 8, APO AE 09182.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Thad Everage, chairman
Pastor Search Committee

How many destroyed?

Editor:

Who will emerge the purest of the pure? Where will the purge take the SBC? Will we be reduced to one? Is there a day coming when one man will stand atop the lonely hill and cry out, "Mine is the inerrant and infallible interpretation of the Scriptures. I alone am left. I am the purest of the pure. Therefore, conform to my ways or be fired, ostracized, or alienated; for I am the authority on Scripture interpretation." Will there be only one whom the Holy Spirit gives light on and understanding of the Scriptures? It would seem that we are moving that way... "leading us into the 21st century."

Is there one among us now who has attained the pinnacle of authority and power under the present system and who seeks to pontificate? One whose ego cannot be satisfied until the masses are bowing in his presence and kissing his ring. One whose ego cannot be satisfied until all the servants of God are preaching his message. One whose ego cannot be satisfied until all conventions and churches conform to his polity. Is there one who seeks God's chair?

Is the arm of the Lord too short that men have to don their armor and cleanse the kingdom? Do men need to mount their white steeds and charge through the kingdom destroying the "heretics?" Can God no longer place his servants where he wants them and remove them when he is ready? Will it be you? Will it be me? How much carnage... how many must be destroyed before the Pontiff is secure on his throne?

Jim Ray, pastor
Bunker Hill Church
Columbia

Budapest greetings

Editor:

Summer is fast approaching, and we still do not have a volunteer Food Services Coordinator for our summer course at the International Baptist Lay Academy, Budapest, Hungary. We are seeking a qualified church or school food supervisor with a current health certificate to oversee the meals for up to 60 persons at IBLA June 24-July 23. While most of our meals are catered, an experienced person is needed to oversee the work of the students who work in the kitchen and to help prepare breakfasts and meals which are not catered. Any interested person should contact the Volunteers in Mission Department of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC, for more information.

O. Errol Simmons
Missionary to Eastern Europe
Director, IBLA

Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting Workshop April 22-23, 1994 Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson



Awards Banquet
April 22, 7 p.m.
Dr. Darrel Baergen, Speaker

April 23 Workshops, 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m.



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Just for the Record



Southwestern Singers from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, will present a program of sacred music at First Church, Starkville, Sunday, April 17 at 6 p.m. The Singers are under the direction of A. Joseph King.

Faith Church, Hickory Flat, announces an eight-day crusade, April 10-17. The evangelist will be Jimmy Knight of Laurel. Choirs from seven churches, both Baptist and Methodist, are scheduled to provide revival music during the week. Special events for youth and children are also planned. Bill Dowdy is pastor.

Clarke County Association has a partnership with the Steel Valley Association of Ohio. On March 20-23, pastors from Ohio led Elim, Enterprise, Mount Zion, Pine Hill, Shubuta, and Sov-enlovie churches in revival. There were six professions of faith and many rededications. Grady Crowell is the director of missions for Clarke Association.

Bethlehem Church, Simpson Association, reached an all time high for its Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. A total of \$5,000 was given for the year. Jerome McLendon is pastor.

The Blue Mountain College Department of Speech and Theatre will present **A Russian Quartet: Four Plays of Anton Chekhov** in Garrett Hall on April 14-16 at 7:30 p.m. A matinee performance is

scheduled for April 13. The four farces tell tales of love, pride, and general foolishness. For more information, call (601) 685-4771.

The WMU of Lakeshore Church, Jackson, raised \$2,200 to assist Steve Smith, a missionary in Neuquen, Argentina. Smith was able to purchase CPR equipment which was needed for his work in sports evangelism.

First Church, Yazoo City, continues a year-long observance of its Sesquicentennial Celebration. The church was organized with 15 charter members, 11 whites and four slaves. Its first pastor was S.I. Caldwell. Wilmer C. Fields and his wife Libby will be guests of the church April 9-10.

The Mississippi School for the Blind, Jackson, will present a celebration in gospel song on April 9 at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium. For more information, call 845-2453 or 939-9402.

New Palestine Church, Picayune, will sponsor Lay Renewal Weekend on April 15-17. Don Ball of Biloxi will be the coordinator. Grover C. Glenn III is pastor.

New Orleans Seminary will host an "Old Fashioned" Sacred Harp sing in the Sellers Music Building, April 14, following a covered dish supper at 6 p.m. For more information, contact the seminary's Division of Church Music Ministries, (504) 282-4455, ext. 3226.

First Church, Inverness, is looking for a young adult, male or female, to lead an 8-week summer ministry for children and youths in that community. Salary and benefits are negotiable. Interested persons should contact the church at (601) 265-5974.

Mississippi College and the Clinton Chamber of Commerce will sponsor "Arts in April," which will include two events co-sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board: the State Young Musicians Festival April 9 at 1 p.m. and the State Handbell Festival April 23, 12:30 p.m. Both are on the MC campus. Also included will be an exhibit by assistant art professor Steve Cook at Latimer House on campus, beginning April 8; an opera workshop April 7-8; concert chorale sing, April 15; Shakespeare Festival, April 18-19 and 21-23. For more information on these and other events, call the school at (601) 925-3256.

The joint annual meeting of the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Historical Society will be held April 26-27 at First Church, Memphis, under the theme, "Ministries of Baptist Laypeople." The meeting will spotlight ministries to the homeless and victims of abuse and AIDS. For more information, contact the Historical Commission, (615) 244-0344.

Homecomings

Goss, Columbia: April 24; services, 11 a.m., dinner in fellowship hall at noon, and 1:30 p.m. singing; Jerry Mixon, Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale, guest speaker, William T. Wright, pastor.

Monticello (Lawrence): April 24; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:50 a.m.; covered dish in fellowship, noon; singing and praise service, 1:30 p.m.; James J. Harrell, former pastor, guest speaker; Jimmy G. McGee, pastor.

Pearson Church, Pearl: April 24; services, 11 a.m.; lunch served in Family Life Center following services; singing groups performing at 1:15 p.m. in sanctuary; Nelson Crozier, First Church, Sharon, guest speaker; Bennie McBride, music; Wayne Long, pastor.

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Staff Changes

Evansville Church, Coldwater, has called **James Tim George** as associate pastor and minister of youth. His previous place of service was Wyatte Church, Falkville, Ala. George received his education at Mid-America Seminary.

Alexander Memorial Church, Hollandale, has called **Michael R. McLendon** as pastor effective March 6. A native of Hattiesburg, he received his education at William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Brewer Church, Richton.

Alta Woods Church, Jackson, has called **Ronnie Falvey** as minister of education effective April 10. A native of Natchez, he received his education at Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. His previous place of service was First Church, Canton.

Emmanuel Church, Leake Association, has called **Scott Worley** as pastor effective April 11. He is moving from Clinton.

McDonald Church, Leake Association, has called **Larry Saxton** as pastor effective April 10. He will return to Leake Association.

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Revival Dates

Green's Creek, Petal: April 10-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Wed., luncheon, 11 a.m.; Randy Turner, Laurel, evangelist; David Young, Laurel, music; Ralph Graves, interim pastor.

Barefoot Springs, Pelahatchie: April 10-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; John T. Brock, evangelist; The Brad Jones Family, music; Grant McElveen, pastor.

Springdale, Ripley: April 10-13; services, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; Ed Gandy, Corinth, evangelist; Chris Reaves, Ripley, music; Maurice Pinkston, pastor.

Tillatoba (Yalobusha): April 10-13; regular Sunday services; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Riley Ainsworth, Pittsboro, evangelist; Wanda Crawford and Diann Jackson, Tillatoba, music; James Garner, pastor.

Collins, Collins: April 17-20; services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday and weekdays at 7 p.m.; Nathan L. Barber, Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg, evangelist; Daniel Lee, Providence Church, Hattiesburg, music; John R. Sapp, pastor.

Alexander Memorial, Hollandale: April 17-20; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Larry Duncan, Walnut Grove, evangelist; Curtis Carter, Raymond, music; Michael B. McLendon, pastor.

First, Marion: April 24-27; Sunday, 11 a.m.; 7 p.m. nightly;

Danny Lanier, Little Rock, evangelist; Everett Sollie, Leeds, Ala., music; Walter M. Blackman, pastor.

Society Hill, Oakvale: April 24-29; services, 7 p.m.; Milton Scott, Carson, evangelist; Ruben McDowell, Columbia, music; Glen Nelson, pastor.

First, Leakesville: April 24-29; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., noon and 7 p.m.; Sandy Sherman, Ocean Springs, evangelist; Eddie Wilhite, Richton, music; H. Gregg Thomas, pastor.

Clear Springs, Coffeeville: April 24-29; 7:30 p.m. each night; Troy Hurdle, Water Valley, evangelist; Lonnie Waller, pastor.

North Greenwood, Greenwood: April 24-27; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon and 7 p.m.; Kiley Young, Gulfport, evangelist; John Burke, Greenville, music; Jim Phillips, pastor.

Hopewell, Newton: April 10-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., no night service; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Danny Lafferty, evangelist; Danny Harrison, music; Mark McDonald, pastor.

Freedom, Laurel: April 10-15; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Larry Robertson, Poplarville, evangelist; Rusty Thomaston, Laurel, music; Tracy Hipps, pastor.

Revival Results

Holly, Corinth: March 13-16; Andy Bryan, Dothan, Ala., preaching and music; 33 professions of faith; Marc D. Howard, pastor.

Hollandale (Washington): March 20-23; Buford Easley, New Orleans, preaching; John and Lisa McDaniels, Memphis, music; one profession of faith; Greg Williams, pastor.

Thursday, April 7, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

William Carey College appoints three new members to Hattiesburg faculty

William Carey College has announced the appointment of three new faculty members, all of whom began their duties at the beginning of the spring trimester.

They are Carroll David Channel, Randall Keathley Harris, and Sonja A. Warren.

Channel has been named professor of business. He holds the doctor of business administration from Louisiana Tech University, the master of business administration from University of Southern Mississippi, and the bachelor of business administration from University of Mississippi.

He has taught at East Texas State University and has held a

number of positions in private business.

Harris, who has joined the department of biology as an assistant professor, recently completed the doctor of philosophy degree at Vanderbilt University.

He holds the bachelor of science degree from Belmont University, where he graduated magna cum laude. He has taught at Belmont University.

Warren, whose appointment is as an assistant professor in nursing, received the master of science at University of Mississippi and the undergraduate degree at University of Southern Mississippi.

Her extensive experience as a

practicing nursing includes assignments at Methodist and Forrest General hospitals in Hattiesburg, South Mississippi State Hospital, and Rush Foundation Hospital in Meridian.

William Carey College has also announced that Cloyd L. Ezell Jr. has been named dean of the school of arts, humanities, and sciences, a position he will assume on June 1.

Ezell, who completed the doctor of philosophy degree in mathematics at Vanderbilt University, holds the master of science degree from University of Southern Mississippi and the bachelor of science from Millsaps College.



First Church, Sardis, notes 150th year

First Church, Sardis (Panola), will celebrate its 150th anniversary now through September.

The church was constituted on Sept. 18, 1894, and existed before the town of Sardis was incorporated.

Guest speakers and evangelists for the ongoing celebration include: April 24, J. Roy McComb, Lenoir City, Tenn.; May 15, Joe E. Lunceford, Georgetown, Ky.; June 12, M.G. Reedy, Water Valley; June 19, Curtis Askew, Albuquerque, N.M.; July 17-21, William Webb, Meridian (evangelist), and Billy W. Bowie, Osceola, Ark. (musician), in BREAKTHROUGH revival; Aug. 21, G.C. "Bill" Cox, Oakland; and Sept. 17-18, Charles M. Conley, Mt. Whitewall, Tenn. (evangelist), and Wayne Brown of Memphis (musician).

Jerry Sanford is pastor.

National Day of Prayer leaders plan conference

A coordinators conference to train Mississippians interested in helping with the upcoming National Day of Prayer will be conducted on April 9 at Morrison Heights Church in Clinton, according to Wanda Kay Wigley, a member of Raymond Church, Raymond, and state coordinator for the event.

The National Day of Prayer is scheduled for May 5.

"There will be intense workshops on prayer missionaries, prayer warriors, organizing

churches county by county, specific instructions for ... coordinators," Wigley said.

Booths will be set up for individual ministries, church ministries and intercessory prayer, she added.

Registration for the conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. on April 9, and the conference will end at 4 p.m. Sack lunches and drinks will be available.

For more information on the conference or setting up a booth display, call (601) 857-8409.

LifeAnswers



My 8-year-old daughter's friend told me that she slept with her uncle. This concerns me. What should I do?

hurting from my divorce, rebellious children, and job pressures. I need relief now.

Life is a series of rides. As soon as we get off one ride we start another, and we often simply change to a ride with a different set of ups and downs, jumps and jars. How do we make it through this chaos? Make your word RELIEF work for you:

- Rest on the Sabbath. Put your feet up in the afternoon and relax. Take up a hobby or recreation.
- Energize yourself with friends, good reading material, your Bible, and prayer that will stimulate and encourage you.
- Learn something new. Set new goals for yourself.
- Individuate. Find time for yourself. As you love God, love yourself as you love others. Your children are watching.
- Encourage someone else along their way. "Give and it will be given unto you" (Luke 6:38).
- Focus on where it is God wants you to go and keep looking in that direction.

Does life ever get easy? I know that sounds silly, but I am tired of

Don't overreact or probe. Let her do the talking. Watch for signs of withdrawal, sadness, tears, or outbursts of anger. When she brings it up, ask innocent questions like, "Do you enjoy that? Tell me about your uncle. Do you do this often?" Keep the tone light, and watch her eyes for hurt or shame. If you suspect something and you know her parents well, you might tell them what you actually overheard and observed — but not your interpretations. If the child's comments continue, call the Mississippi Department of Human Services toll free at 1-800-222-8000 and ask what you should do. By all means, be a friend to this child. Your house may be safe harbor in a confusing situation. As children feel protected, they feel secure and loved.

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Smell something funny? Could be serious.

A natural gas leak is a serious matter. If you detect one, contact MVG or your local police or fire department immediately.



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Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 362, Hattiesburg, MS 39405-0362. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember, in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

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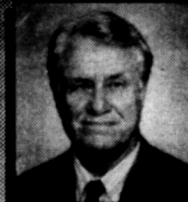
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Uniform Living in the Spirit



By Doug Bain
Romans 8

Romans 7-8 presents one of the foundational complexities of Christian existence. The issue concerns the tendency to live on the basis of an external locus of control (law-keeping religion) rather than an internal locus of control (Spirit-led religion). Our tendency is to seek to ensure our success by taking control and forcing conformity to a pattern. But while conformity is gained, freedom is lost. Can you imagine the risk of living by what God's Spirit, informing us through Scripture, writes upon our hearts? Can you imagine the risk of such an internal locus of control, not controlling our conformity by self effort, not ensuring our success? And therein lies the challenge.

"Living in the Spirit" can be understood in contrast to the experience of "living under the laws" (Romans 7) and in comparison with Jesus' teachings about "living in the kingdom" (Matt. 5-7). Living in the Spirit is a life of freedom because it is a life of bondedness in Jesus Christ.

Free from condemnation and death (vv. 1-2). This portion of the text speaks of those who live according to the new humanity, who inhabit the new era, who are "in Christ," and who live "in the kingdom." These are free and do not live according to the external rule-keeping and are not outer-directed. They are free also from condemnation and death. How can this be — free from self-directed pressure to "keep the rules," and free from condemnation due to failure? The Spirit imprints the "rules" on our hearts, so that what we ought to do begins to be what we want to do. And our lives then become inner-directed — and so we are free — free to do as we "want." But herein lies the danger — and the necessity to monitor and measure those wants by God's standard. We can do what we want to do as those things have grown to be what Christ would have us do. The resulting righteousness is not a product of our tainted efforts at rule-keeping — we are "no longer under law." Obedience is now obedience to the Spirit of the inner law and not the letter of the outer law!

God's saving act in Christ (vv. 3-4). The foundation for "God's saving act in Christ" occurred in the first century Christ event; but the "saving act" occurs in our experience as we encounter personally the living Christ. What outer-directed, self-controlled, rule-keeping religious effort cannot accomplish, Jesus Christ works within us. That process begins freeing us from the death grip of prideful control, or from sin. So Paul can say that God sent his Son to do what "the law," or law-keeping effort, could not effect. The indwelling Christ frees people from sin, which law and law-keeping effort fail to do.

Flesh and Spirit (vv. 5-8). Those who live on the basis of self-directed, self-controlled efforts do what human nature dictates. That is the problem with rule-keeping kind of religion, which by self-organized energies ("flesh") follows an external agenda ("law"). It may do "right things" but "heart" is left untouched, and therefore the "rules" really have not been "kept." But when heart territory is invaded by the Spirit, so that Spirit shapes the will and the desire, then this kind of living results not only in "righteousness" but in "life and peace."

The indwelling Spirit (vv. 9-11). Rather than doing as uninvaded human nature dictates, the believer begins to let the Spirit of the indwelling Christ shape his own inner spirit, letting the life of Jesus begin to take shape within him. It is then obvious (v. 9b) that "whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him." The Spirit works "Christ" within us, transforming us into the likeness of God's supreme representative, Jesus, and therefore Christ lives in us and the Spirit is indeed life for us. Even though our bodies will expire, still the Spirit is working life in us (v. 10). The Spirit who does this is the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from death, now living and working in us. Since he raised Jesus from death physically, he can certainly give life to our mortal bodies spiritually.

The heavy truths of Romans 8 are not to be discerned by the "power of the flesh." But as the Spirit works such truth within our hearts, the possibilities of new life take shape on the horizon, new light appears in the darkness, and "religion" recedes as "truth" approaches and God becomes all in all!

Bain is professor of biblical and related studies, Blue Mountain College.

Bible Book Jesus raises Lazarus



By Dan Howard
John 11

Historian Shelby Foote tells of a soldier who was wounded at the battle of Shiloh during the American Civil War and was ordered to go to the rear. The fighting was fierce and within minutes he returned to his commanding officer and said, "Captain, give me a gun! This fight ain't got any rear!"

Have you ever felt that you did not have a place to turn for security or peace? Have you felt like life was collapsing all around you and there was no hope? This may have been something of what Mary and Martha felt as they watched their brother Lazarus die. Jesus is our hope and assurance in death and in life.

Jesus arrives in Bethany (vv. 17-18). Mary and Martha had sent word for Jesus to come when Lazarus became ill. When Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been in the grave four days. All hope of recovery seemed to be gone.

Jesus met by Martha (vv. 19-27). The differing personalities of Martha and Mary were revealed as the news of Jesus' arrival reached them. Martha, a woman of action and energy, chose to go out and meet Jesus. Mary, reserved and contemplative, chose to stay at home.

In verse 21, Martha expresses feelings of grief, disappointment, and hurt when she said, "Lord, if you had been here." These feelings call into question whether Jesus did what was best or if he knew what was best. As soon as Martha said these words she was convicted and went on to say in verse 22 that she believed Jesus could ask anything of God and he would grant the request.

Jesus told her that Lazarus would rise again. Martha understood this to mean that he would arise in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus makes three statements about himself to aid her understanding of who he was.

First, Jesus did not say that he gave resurrection and life to men, although he does. His point was that he is the very essence, power, and energy, the source of all life.

Second, Jesus claims that a person who believes in him even though he dies, he will live. The meaning is that when the person who accepts Jesus as Savior dies, he will go on living spiritually in heaven.

Third, Jesus said that the person who lives and believes in him will never die. The person who possesses Christ as Savior will never experience death. That is, the person will pass from this world to the next without an interruption.

Jesus asked Martha if she believed that he truly was the resurrection and the life. Martha declared that she believed Jesus to be Lord and sovereign over all, to be the Messiah sent by God into the world, and to be the divine Son of God. What do you believe about Jesus?

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (vv. 41-44). Jesus demonstrated that he was the resurrection and life by raising Lazarus from the dead.

Once the stone was removed, Jesus prayed a prayer of thanksgiving to the Father for hearing and answering his request. Jesus prayed aloud for the benefit of the people present so as to strengthen their belief that he was the Messiah.

In a loud voice, Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come forth." This was a shout of power intended to raise Lazarus from the dead. Jesus alone has this power. This was also a personal shout. Jesus knows his sheep by name.

In response to the voice of Jesus, Lazarus came forth. He was still bound by the grave cloth. There were two pieces of the grave cloth: the napkin of cloth wrapped around the face and the cloth wrapped around the rest of the body. The resurrection of Lazarus proved that Jesus was the resurrection and the life. We can trust Jesus to do what he promises.

Reactions to the sign (vv. 45-46, 53). The reaction to Jesus' resurrection power was divided. Many believed on Jesus as Messiah. Some people could not accept that he was the Son of God. The non-believers went to the Pharisees to tell them what Jesus had done.

In response to the report to the Pharisees, the Sanhedrin met to discuss the fate of Jesus. Their conclusion was that Jesus should be eliminated.

Even when forces and powers arise against us, we have hope in Jesus because he is the resurrection and the life.

Howard is pastor, Woodville Church, Woodville.

Life and Work The living Lord



By Billie Buckley
Luke 24

What is a rare thing today? We may have to go way back or dig deep where few dare to trek for answers to that question.

A screen door is a rare thing. Paper dolls seem to be rare. Families sitting down to eat a meal together at the table is rare. Kids playing unorganized games outside is almost unheard of today.

Truth and honesty are rare. We had rather rationalize. Openness is rare. We had rather manipulate others or exploit the situation.

This lesson should prompt us to raise the curtain higher on the rendition of "The Rarest of the Rare." There are four scenes: the rare road rendezvous, a rare revealing of Scripture, a rare revelation, and a rare responsibility.

Maybe, we need to identify the "rarest of the rare" as one who has discovered the spiritual assurance and excitement that comes from experiencing the living Lord. This vitality can be found in our focal passage as we open the curtain on each scene.

A rare road rendezvous (vv. 13-16). The two disciples did not recognize Jesus when they met him. Preoccupation and misunderstanding prevented them from having this experience even though they desired it.

What prevents us from being aware of the presence of Jesus in our lives today? What keeps us from being in step with him? One reason is we want to decide which road to follow. Then when we get lost or trouble surrounds us, we remember to invite him to join us on our journey.

One thing for sure, if we walk with Jesus down the road he chooses for us, we will never be out of step.

A rare revealing of Scripture (v. 27). Jesus interpreted himself in light of Scripture. We can experience the living Lord through the teaching and study of Scripture as we gain an understanding of his ministry. The Scripture teaches us this major truth.

Jesus was empowered after the resurrection. Today, being empowered by God while not running rough shod over others is rare.

No where in Scripture do we find Jesus using this "push and shove" tactic to further his ministry. Gentle strength could best be used to describe him. His gentleness created an environment where strength could function and take control of a situation in the right way.

A rare revelation (vv. 28-32). In these verses, Jesus seemed ready to leave until his two fellow travelers urged him to stay with them. They recognized Jesus in the act of breaking bread. Persons can fellowship with Christ through worship and in the ordinary events of daily life.

Work makes up the ordinary events of most of our day. It is a rare individual today who has fallen head-over-heals in love with his/her work. Christ can reveal himself through this rarity to those around us.

True worship has a God-focus and not a self-focus or a man-focus. Enjoying a performance doesn't count. Paying attention to God counts in this truly rare revelation.

A rare responsibility (vv. 33-35). Telling others about this experience is a rare responsibility. Filled with assurance and excitement, the two followers returned to Jerusalem to tell others what had happened.

These followers would be known as satisfied customers today. Yet, when we look around, there seems to be few customers to tell others about Jesus. Why are there so many people who are dissatisfied with their lives? They have listened to false advertisement. Many need to demand a refund for that which society endorses as satisfaction.

Where can this excitement and assurance and satisfaction come from? You don't find it in preoccupation, isolation, or circulation. You find it in the very center of your being where God dwells. Don't ever substitute that which is rare and that which is real for a cheap imitation.

Buckley is a member of Petal-Harvey Church, Petal.

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Adult 3 SS, Bogus Chitto BC,
Tylertown
Bogus Chitto Baptist Church
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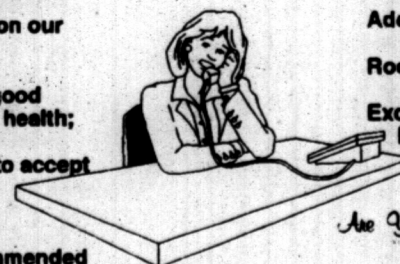
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We are looking for mature,
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Ages 30-60 years to serve as
Child Care Workers for
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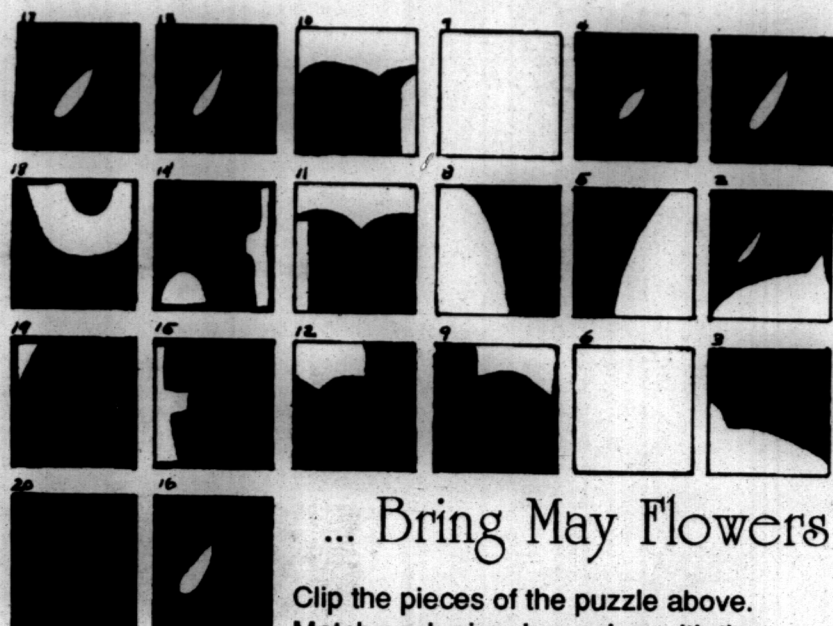


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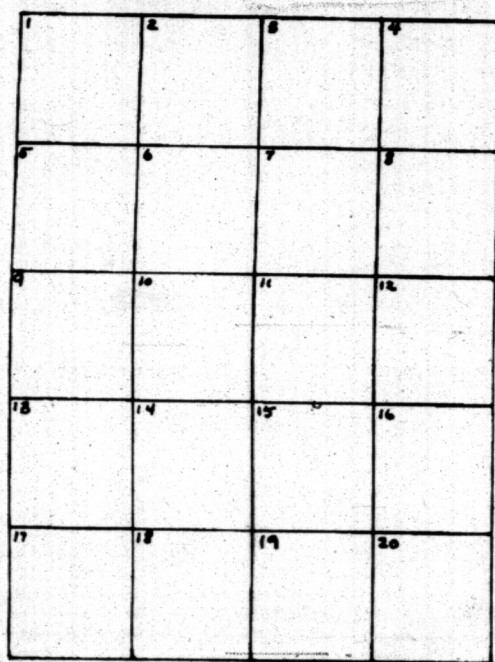
The Baptist Children's Village
P. O. Box 27
Clinton, Mississippi 39060-0027
EOE

CHILDREN'S PAGE



... Bring May Flowers

Clip the pieces of the puzzle above. Match each piece's number with the same number on the grid below to make a picture.



Healthy breakfast important to child's academic success

NEW YORK — On any given day, millions of America's school children arrive with one strike against their learning potential — they fail to have breakfast.

According to a recent survey by the National Dairy Council, only 56% of 8- to 13-year-olds eat breakfast every day, while a disturbing 8% report they "hardly ever eat" a morning meal. As they age and enter the critical "growth spurt" stage, children are even less likely to eat breakfast with 17% of 12- and 13-year-olds responding they "hardly ever" do.

The encouraging news in the report is that a third of those interviewed said they do eat breakfast

"almost every day." These children and the every-day eaters total 87%.

While these numbers are encouraging, said Marianne Neifert, noted pediatrician and author, "We need to turn these 'sometimes' breakfast eaters into loyal, daily breakfast eaters if children are to reach their maximum potential."

Research has shown, she noted, that children who consistently eat a well-balanced breakfast have significantly higher scores on standardized achievement test, are tardy and absent less, concentrate better, and are less likely to demonstrate fatigue and misbehavior.

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
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VEY YS UVEY XTIX KEJ TSIFSXT VEX OCVVSFO:
RGX CB IVQ NIV RS I YEFOTCMMSF EB KEJ, IVJ
JESXT TCO YCDD, TCN TS TSIFSXT.

LETV VCVS: XTCFXQ-EVS

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Eleven: Nine.

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Christa Terry. I'm eight years old and in the second grade. My birthday is Feb. 4. I go to Kirk Academy and attend Holcomb Baptist Church. I have one cat named Calico and one dog named Littlebit. I like to go to school and church, play with my pets, and jump on the trampoline. Please write me, boy or girl. Please send a picture. My address is Rt. 1, Box 44, Holcomb, MS 38940.

Christa Terry

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Flame Ray. I am nine years old. I go to Salem Baptist Church. I am in the third grade at Neshoba Central School. My hobbies are reading, swimming, writing, and watching movies. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write to me at: Rt. 6, Box 154, Philadelphia, MS 39350.

Flame Ray

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! I'm Nathan Dancy. I'm eight years old. I like Nintendo, football, basketball, baseball, TV, and reading books by Ronald Raul. My favorite book is *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. I go to Delta Academy. I'm a Christian at Crowder Baptist Church. I would like a pen pal, boy or girl. You can write to me at: Rt. 2, Box 1, Lambert, MS 38643. Please send a picture.

Nathan Dancy

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Lacey Roberts. I am seven years old. I go to Wesson Baptist Church. I am in the second grade at Wesson Attendance Center. My hobbies are swimming, roller skating, dance, Girl Scouts, and riding my bicycle. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write to me at: P.O. Box 729, Wesson, MS 39191.

Lacey Roberts

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Tasha Waddell. I am in the fifth grade at East Holmes Academy in West. I am 11 years old. My hobbies are swimming, playing baseball, horseback riding, and playing Nintendo. I would like a boy or girl of any age as a pen pal. Please write to: Rt. 1, Box 64-A, West, MS 39192.

Tasha Waddell

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Jeremy Green. My birthday is Aug. 29. I'm eight years old. I go to Sturgis School. I'm in the third grade. I go to Friendship Baptist Church. My hobbies are riding my bike, playing baseball and football. My favorite animals are cats and dogs. Please send a picture if possible and remember to write me. My address is 2194 Craig Springs Rd., Sturgis, MS 39769.

Jeremy Green

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Sarah Neal. I am nine years old, and I'm in the fourth grade. I enjoy swimming,

reading, writing letters, playing with dogs, and traveling. I am a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. I would like a boy or girl between ages 8 and 12 to write me at: P.O. Box 363, Gloster, MS 39638.

Sarah Neal

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Rebecca Neal. I am 10 years old and in the fifth grade. I will be 11 this month. My hobbies include swimming, tanning, dancing, singing, reading, writing pen pals, and playing with my dog, Prince. I have two dogs. I would like a boy or girl of any age to write to me, and I will write them. Please send a picture if possible. Please write me at: P.O. Box 363, Gloster, MS 39638.

Rebecca Neal

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Heather Denson of Lena. I am in the sixth grade and 12 years old. I don't care the age of the person who writes or if they are a boy or girl. My hobbies are reading books by R.L. Stine and playing softball. I go to Carthage Junior High School. If you would like to write me, my address is Rt. 1, Box 251, Lena, MS 39094.

Heather Denson

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Skylar Motes. I am seven years old. I like to ride bikes. I am in the second grade. I go to First Baptist Church in Vancleave. If possible, send a picture. My address is 14709 Burrell Rd., Vancleave, MS 39565.

Skylar Motes

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Hope Holmes. I'm eight years old and in the third grade. I am home schooled. My hobbies are clogging, playing the piano, art classes, swimming, and riding my pony. I am a member of Salem Baptist Church. If you would like to write to me, my address is Rt. 1, Box 98, Potts Camp, MS 38659.

Hope Holmes

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is John Martin. I am seven years old. I go to Piave Baptist Church. My hobbies are football, riding my bike, basketball, and watching TV. I would like a boy or girl to write me at:

Rt. 1, Box 178, Leakesville, MS 39451.

John Martin

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hello! My name is Alaina Martin. I'm 13 years old. I attend Piave Baptist Church. My hobbies are reading, playing basketball, writing stories, talking on the phone, and watching football. I would like for a boy or girl of any age to write me. If at all possible, please send a photo. My address is Rt. 1, Box 178, Leakesville, MS 39451.

Alaina Martin

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Lori Douglas. I am in the fifth grade. I attend W.L. Smith Elementary. I'm 11 years old. My hobbies are playing basketball and softball, riding our four-wheeler, and going hunting and fishing with my dad. I have one dog. I would like a boy or girl to write to me. My address is 131 Temple Rd., Petal, MS 39465.

Lori Douglas

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Jason Kukor. I am 14 years old. My hobbies are playing sports, playing my guitar, and talking on the phone. If you would like to write me, my address is Rt. 4, Box 56, Mt. Olive, MS 39119.

Jason Kukor

Baptist Record

April

005-DTM
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NASHVILLE TN 37203